

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 IGA-02 SS-15

DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00

USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 /075 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7727

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 491

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, SZ, UN

SUBJECT: TURKISH ALKALOID PLANT

REF: GENEVA 142, STATE 004327

1. WELLMAN HAS PROVIDED FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON CALL HE MADE JAN 20 ON ARIM (TURKISH MISSION) TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS RELATED ALKALOID PLANT, STATUS OF SALE 1975 POPPY STRAW CROP AND TURKISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFDAC. (WELL MADE CALL IN LIEU UNFDAC'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DE BEUS WHO IS CURRENTLY IN LONDON/NEW YORK).

2. WELLMAN ASKED ABOUT PROPOSED CAPACITY OF ALKALOID PLANT. ARIM SAID TURKISH MISSION HAD NO INFO BUT HE WOULD QUERY ANKARA. WELLMAN RECALLED THAT UN EXPERTS HAD PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED CAPACITY QUESTION WITH TURKISH AUTHORITIES WHEN TURKEY WAS CONSIDERING ALTERNATIVE PLANS FOR PLANT WITH CAPACITY OF 20,000 TONS POPPY STRAW AND ADDITIONAL PLANT WITH CAPACITY OF 10,000 TONS. NOTED THAT UN'S EXPERTS HAD SUGGESTED TURKEY BEGIN WITH PLANT OF LOWER CAPACITY AND THEN ADD ADDITIONAL CAPACITY IF MARKET JUSTIFIED SUCH ACTION. ARIM SAID HE UNDERSTOOD POINT.

3. WELLMAN ALSO REFERRED TO CONTROL PROBLEM IN RELATION  
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TO PLANT CAPACITY. SAID IT HAD BEEN REPORTED THAT TO MEET

DEMANDS OF 20,000 TON CAPACITY PLANT, FROM 30,000 TO 35,000 HECTARES OF OPIUM POPPY MIGHT NEED HARVESTED AND THAT TO ASSURE ADEQUATE SUPPLY AND ALLOW FOR CROP FAILURES LICENSED ACREAGE OF AS MUCH AS 60,000 TO 75,000 HECTARES MIGHT BE NECESSARY. ARIM SAID ACREAGE LICENSED FOR 1975-76 HAD BEEN LIMITED TO 20,000 HECTARES AND HE KNEW OF NO PROJECTIONS OF INCREASES IN ACREAGE OF MAGNITUDE MENTIONED BY WELLMAN. ARIM NOTED THAT ONCE TURKEY HAD AN AERIAL SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITY IT WOULD BE EASIER AND SAFER TO EXPAND LICENSED ACREAGE TO MEET PLANT'S RAW MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS AND RECONFIRMED GOT'S ACTIVE INTEREST IN ACQUIRING THIS CAPACITY THROUGH COMPASS TRIP SYSTEM.

4. ON QUESTION OF SALE 1975 POPPY STRAW CROP, ARIM STATED AGRICULTURE MINISTRY HAD CONFIRMED THAT OFFERS TO PURCHASE WERE FOUND SATISFACTORY AND AGREEMENTS TO SELL WERE MADE, BUT NOTED THAT CROP NOT YET EXPORTED BECAUSE CERTAIN CONDITIONS WERE STILL UNDER DISCUSSION.

5. ARIM SAID TURKISH MISSION HAD MADE STRONG RECOMMENDATION TO ANKARA THAT GOT MAKE NEW CONTRIBUTION TO UNFIDAC ON OCCASION UPCOMING CND SESSION.

6. COMMENT: RE QUESTION OF CULTIVATION AREAS, ADDRESSES WILL RECALL THAT SOYLEMEZ, IN HIS STATEMENT BEFORE UNGA LAST OCT., SAID THAT FROM 1975 ONWARDS GOT WOULD AUTHORIZE POPPY CULTIVATION IN SEVEN PROVINCES OVER AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 20,000 HECTARES FOR PRODUCTION OF UNINCISED POPPY CAPSULES. WHILE WE HAVE UNDERSTOOD THIS TO REFER TO "LICENSED AREA", TURKS COULD PRESUMABLY SAY THEY MEANT REFER TO "HARVESTED AREA", THUS PERMITTING LICENSING OVER LARGER AREA. DALE

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## Message Attributes

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